

§ 301.2

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Secretary of the Treasury (U.S. Customs Service) in accordance with these regulations. If the application is made in accordance with the regulations, notice of the application is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER to provide an opportunity for interested persons and government agencies to present views. The application is reviewed by the Secretary of Commerce (Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff) whose decision as to whether or not duty-free entry may be accorded the instrument is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. An appeal of the final decision may be filed with the United States Court of Customs and Patent Appeals, on questions of law only, within 20 days after publication of the decision in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(3) Repair components for instruments or apparatus admitted duty-free under tariff item 851.60 require no application and may be entered duty-free in accordance with the procedures prescribed in § 301.10.

(d) *Authority and delegations.* The Act authorizes the Secretaries of Commerce and the Treasury to prescribe joint regulations to carry out their functions under Headnote 6, TSUS. The Secretary of the Treasury has delegated authority to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Operations, who has retained rulemaking authority and further delegated administration of the regulations to the Commissioner of the U.S. Customs Service. The authority of the Secretary of Commerce has been delegated to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration who has retained rulemaking authority and further delegated administration of the regulations to the Director of the Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[47 FR 32517, July 28, 1982; 47 FR 34368, Aug. 9, 1982]

§ 301.2 Definitions.

For the purposes of these regulations and the forms used to implement them:

(a) *Director* means the Director of the Statutory Import Programs Staff, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

(b) *Customs* means the U.S. Customs Service and the “The Commissioner” means Commissioner of the U.S. Customs

Service, or the official(s) designated to act on the Commissioner’s behalf.

(c) *Customs Port* or *the Port* means the port where a particular claim has been or will be made for duty-free entry of a scientific instrument or apparatus under tariff item 851.60.

(d) *Entry* means entry of an instrument into the Customs territory of the United States for consumption or withdrawal of an instrument from a Customs bonded warehouse for consumption.

(e) *United States* includes only the several States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(f) *Instrument* means only instruments and apparatus classifiable under the tariff items specified in headnote 6(a) of part 4 of Schedule 8. A combination of basic instrument or apparatus and accompanying accessories shall be treated as a single instrument provided that, under normal commercial practice, such combination is considered to be a single instrument and provided further that the applicant has ordered or, upon favorable action on its application, firmly intends to order the combination as a unit. Unless the context indicates otherwise, instrument or apparatus shall mean a foreign “instrument or apparatus” for which duty-free entry is sought under tariff item 851.60. Spare parts typically ordered and delivered with an instrument are also considered part of an instrument for purposes of these regulations. The term “instruments” shall not include:

(1) Materials or supplies used in the operation of instruments and apparatus such as paper, cards, tapes, ink, recording materials, expendable laboratory materials, apparatus that loses identity or is consumed by usage or other materials or supplies.

(2) Ordinary equipment for use in building construction or maintenance; or equipment for use in supporting activities of the institution, such as its administrative offices, machine shops, libraries, centralized computer facilities, eating facilities, or religious facilities; or support equipment such as copying machines, glass working apparatus and film processors.

(3) General purpose equipment such as air conditioners, electric typewriters, electric drills, refrigerators.

(4) General-purpose computers. Accessories to computers which are not eligible for duty-free treatment are also ineligible. Scientific instruments containing embedded computers which are to be used in a dedicated process or in instrument control, as opposed to general data processing or computation, are, however, eligible for duty-free consideration.

(5) Instruments initially imported solely for testing or review purposes which were entered under bond under tariff item 864.30, subject to the provisions of Headnote 1(a) of subpart C, part 5, schedule 8 TSUS and must be exported or destroyed within the time period specified in that headnote.

(g) *Domestic instrument* means an instrument which is manufactured in the United States. A domestic instrument need not be made exclusively of domestic components or accessories.

(h) *Accessory* has the meaning which it has under normal commercial usage. An accessory, whether part of an instrument or an attachment to an instrument, adds to the capability of an instrument. An accessory for which duty-free entry is sought under item 851.60 shall be the subject of a separate application when it is not an accompanying accessory.

(i) *Accompanying accessory* means an accessory for an instrument that is listed as an item in the same purchase order and that is necessary for accomplishment of the purposes for which the instrument is intended to be used.

(j) *Ancillary equipment* means an instrument which may be functionally related to the foreign instrument but is not operationally linked to it. Examples of ancillary equipment are vacuum evaporators or ultramicrotomes, which can be used to prepare specimens for electron microscopy. Further, equipment which is compatible with the foreign instrument, but is also clearly compatible with similar domestic instruments, such as automatic sampling equipment sold for use with a variety of mass spectrometers, will be treated as ancillary equipment. A separate application will be required for ancillary

equipment even if ordered with the basic instrument.

(k) *Components* of an instrument means parts or assemblies of parts which are substantially less than the instrument to which they relate. A component enables an instrument to function at a specified minimum level, while an accessory adds to the capability of an instrument. Applications shall not be accepted for components of instruments that did not enter duty-free under tariff item 851.60 or for components of instruments being manufactured or assembled by a commercial firm or entity in the U.S. In determining whether an item is a component ineligible for duty-free consideration or an accessory eligible for such consideration, Customs shall take into account such factors as the item's complexity, novelty, degree of integration and pertinency to the research purposes to be performed by the instrument as a whole.

(l) *Produced for stock* means an instrument which is manufactured, on sale and available from a stock.

(m) *Produced on order* means an instrument which a manufacturer lists in current catalog literature and is able and willing to produce and have available without unreasonable delay to the applicant.

(n) *Custom-made* means an instrument which a manufacturer is willing and able to make to purchaser's specifications. Instruments resulting from a development effort are treated as custom-made for the purposes of these regulations. Also, a special-order variant of a produced on order instrument, with significant modifications specified by the applicant, may be treated as custom-made.

(o) *Same general category* means the category in which an instrument is customarily classified in trade directories and product-source lists, e.g., scanning electron microscope, mass spectrometer, light microscope, x-ray spectrometer.

(p) *Comparable domestic instrument* means a domestic instrument capable or potentially capable of fulfilling the applicant's technical requirements or intended uses, whether or not in the same general category as the foreign instrument.

(q) *Specifications* means the particulars of the structural, operational and performance characteristics or capabilities of a scientific instrument.

(r) *Guaranteed* specifications are those specifications which are an explicit part of the contractual agreement between the buyer and the seller (or which would become part of the agreement if the buyer accepted the seller's offer), and refer only to the minimum and routinely achievable performance levels of the instrument under specified conditions. If a capability is listed or quoted as a range (e.g., "5 to 10 angstroms") or as a minimum that may be exceeded (e.g., "5 angstroms or better"), only the inferior capability may be considered the guaranteed specification. Evidence that specifications are "guaranteed" will normally consist of their being printed in a brochure or other descriptive literature of the manufacturer; being listed in a purchase agreement upon which the purchase is conditioned; or appearing in a manufacturer's formal response to a request for quote. If, however, no opportunity to submit a bid was afforded the domestic manufacturer or if, for any other reason, comparable guaranteed specifications of the foreign and domestic instruments do not appear on the record, other evidence relating to a manufacturer's ability to provide an instrument with comparable specifications may, at the discretion of the Director, be considered in the comparison of the foreign and domestic instruments' capabilities.

(s) *Pertinent* specifications are those specifications necessary for the accomplishment of the specific scientific research and/or science-related educational purposes described by the applicant. Specifications of features (even if guaranteed) which afford greater convenience, satisfy personal preferences, accommodate institutional commitments or limitations, or assure lower costs of acquisition, installation, operation, servicing or maintenance are not pertinent. For example, a design feature, such as a small number of knobs or controls on an instrument primarily designed for research purposes, would be a convenience. The ability to fit an instrument

into a small room, when the required operations could be performed in a larger room, would be either a cost consideration or a matter of convenience and not a pertinent specification. In addition, mere difference in design (which would, for example, broaden the educational experience of students but not provide superior scientific capability) would not be pertinent. Also, unless the applicant demonstrates it is necessary for the accomplishment of its specific scientific purposes, the terms does not extend to such characteristics as size, weight, appearance, durability, reliability, complexity or (simplicity), ease of operation, ease of maintenance, productivity, versatility, "state of the art" design, specific design, or other such characteristics.

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§ 301.3 Application for duty-free entry of scientific instruments.

(a) *Who may apply.* An applicant for duty-free entry of an instrument under tariff item 851.60 must be a public or private nonprofit institution which is established for educational or scientific purposes and which has placed a bona fide order or has a firm intention to place a bona fide order for a foreign instrument within 60 days following a favorable decision on the institution's application.

(b) *Application forms.* Applications must be made on form ITA-338P which may be obtained from the Statutory Import Programs Staff, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230, or from the various District Offices of the U.S. Department of Commerce. (Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0625-0037.)

(c) *Where to apply.* Applications must be filed with the U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, at the address specified on page 1 of the form.

(d) Five copies of the form, including relevant supporting documents, must be submitted. One copy of the form shall be signed in the original by the person in the applicant institution under whose direction and control the foreign instrument will be used and who is familiar with the intended uses